



## Mayor Mark Mallory

City of Cincinnati

801 Plum Street, Room 150, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

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### **Mayor Mallory Announces Plans to Recreate the Office of Environmental Management Crowley tapped as Council Point Person**

Cincinnati – Mayor Mark Mallory announced his plans to recreate the Office of Environmental Management (OEM) and named Councilman David Crowley to head up the effort. At a City Hall Press Conference, Mayor Mallory and Councilman Crowley detailed plans to bring together a diverse cross-section of interested parties to form a Planning Group that will design the structure of the new Office of Environmental Management. The plan for the new OEM will be included in 2007-2008 Budget that Mayor Mallory will submit to Council at the end of the year.

"Cincinnati used to be known as a national leader on protecting the health of our citizens from dangerous environmental conditions. It is time to make citizen's health a priority once again," Mayor Mallory said. "The new Office of Environmental Management will spearhead the city's environmental policy and initiatives."

Mallory pointed to Councilman Crowley's history in selecting him to lead the re-establishment of the Office of Environmental Management. "Councilman Crowley has been a consistent champion of environmental issues on City Council and I am confident that he will do a great job of leading the planning process to bring back the office."

The OEM Planning Group will consist of City officials, local environmental organizations, community groups, local businesses, and interested citizens. The goal of the planning group is to develop a plan for how the new Office of Environmental Management will be organized. The plan will cover mission, responsibilities, staff, budget, and office structure.

"Progress has been made on improving the environment in Cincinnati but we still have a lot of work to do," Councilman David Crowley said. "The re-establishment of the Office of Environmental Management is a critical step in improving the quality of life in our City and the entire region."

Crowley outlined some potential areas of responsibility for the new office, including proactively identifying and addressing environmental hazards; serving as a central point of communication for the City Government and the general public; coordinating the enforcement of the Title X Clean Air law; and any other environmental initiatives adopted by City Council.

"In the last few years, Cincinnati has faced several major environmental problems, with the Styrene leak and the fire at the Queen City Barrel Company," Mayor Mallory said. "It is clear that we need city experts to help us protect the health of our city."